

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
21 STATE CIRCLE  
SHAW HOUSE  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET  
Individual Structure Survey Form

COUNTY:	Anne Arundel
TOWN:	Annapolis
LOCATION:	Church Circle
COMMON NAME:	Anne Arundel County Court House
FUNCTIONAL TYPE:	Public Map 30 Par 640
OWNER:	Anne Arundel County
ADDRESS:	Church Circle/Annapolis, MD 21401
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:	Yes (X) No ( ) Restricted ( )
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:	Local ( ) State ( ) National (✓) <input type="radio"/>

SURVEY NUMBER:	AA 405
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:	
UTM REFERENCES:	Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:	
PRESENT FORMAL NAME:	Anne Arundel County Court House
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:	Anne Arundel County Court House
PRESENT USE:	
ORIGINAL USE:	
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:	
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:	
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:	Excellent ( ) Good (X) Fair ( ) Poor: ( )
THEME:	
STYLE:	Victorian on Federal
DATE BUILT:	1825; 1892; 1925

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

1. Foundation: Stone( ) Brick(X) Concrete( ) Concrete Block( )
2. Wall Structure
  - A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam( ) Balloon( )
  - B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick(X) Stone( ) Concrete( ) Concrete Block( )
  - C. Iron( ) D. Steel( ) E. Other:
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard( ) Board and Batten( ) Wood Shingle( ) Shiplap( )  
Novelty( ) Stucco( ) Sheet Metal( ) Aluminum( ) Asphalt Shingle( )  
Brick Veneer(X) Stone Veneer( ) Asbestos Shingle( )  
Bonding Pattern: Flemish Other:
4. Roof Structure
  - A. Truss: Wood(X) Iron( ) Steel( ) Concrete( )
  - B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate(X) Wood Shingle( ) Asphalt Shingle( ) Sheet Metal( )  
Built Up( ) Rolled( ) Tile( ) Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:

Appendages: Porches(X) Towers(X) Cupolas(X) Dormers(X) Chimneys(X) Sheds( ) Ells(X)  
Wings ( ) Other:

Roof Style: Gable( ) Hip( ) Shed( ) Flat( ) Mansard( ) Gambrel( ) Jerkinhead( )  
Saw Tooth( ) With Monitor( ) With Bellcast( ) With Parapet( ) With False Front( )  
Other: Cross Gable

Number of Stories: 2  
Number of Bays: 7 x 7  
Approximate Dimensions: 85 x 80

Entrance Location: Center in Loggia

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:  
No Threat(X) Zoning( ) Roads( )  
Development( ) Deterioration( )  
Alteration ( ) Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:  
Positive( ) Negative( )  
Mixed( ) Other:

# ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

AA-405

Octagonal tower with belfry; simple molded cornice with dentils at projecting tower; upper level of tower with round windows at eight sides, tower enclosed by parapet with carved limestone balusters; second level has open three bay arcade with embossed limestone keys and balusters; lower level of tower is entrance bay with round arched opening enriched with a limestone archivolt and imposts; entrance has fan lit double doors; main block has splayed brick arches at windows, timber sills, granite watertable.

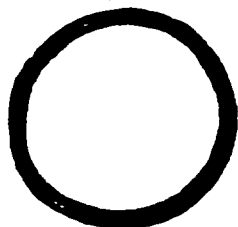
## RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Built in 1825 and altered 1892 and 1925, this facility was first constructed as a county courthouse, since the court met from 1694 through 1769 in the successive Statehouses. Important Federal first phase with well designed later additions and cupola/belfry. Important as a type and as an example of sensitive growth and alteration, and critical to the townscape of Church Circle.

## REFERENCES:

## MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



## SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane( )Woodland( )Scattered Buildings( )  
Moderately Built Up( )Densely-Built Up(✓)  
Residential( )Commercial( )  
Agricultural( )Industrial( )  
Roadside Strip Development( )  
Other:

## RECORDED BY:

Russell Wright

## ORGANIZATION:

Historic Annapolis, Inc

## DATE RECORDED:

Aug. 1983

0204050301

Form 10-445  
(5/62)

1. STATE Annapolis, Maryland		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY	
COUNTY		INVENTORY	
TOWN	VICINITY	2. NAME A.A. County Court House	
STREET NO. Church Circle		DATE OR PERIOD 1825 (alterat. 1892, 1925)	
ORIGINAL OWNER Anne Arundel County		STYLE Federal	
ORIGINAL USE Courthouse		ARCHITECT	
PRESENT OWNER Anne Arundel County		BUILDER	
PRESENT USE Court house		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
WALL CONSTRUCTION brick			
NO. OF STORIES two			

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION	OPEN TO PUBLIC yes
<p>An extremely handsome public building - of age and still being used for intended use. The Federal facade, 5 parts - main block, two wings, plus hyphens, is quite refined with practically no embellishments - merely two storeys with 7 bays of 12/12 windows. The wings are particularly nice with their triangular pediments and oeuil-de-beuf "window" (louvred ventilator). All windows with splayed brick lintels - those on wings have granite key stones. Subsequent additions have been made and a cupola and projecting porch have been added. The cupola may be attempted echo of state house dome, at any rate, it doesn't totally over power the federal facade (I think building was better looking without cupola). Fine example of public Federal (too little Federal in Annapolis).</p>	



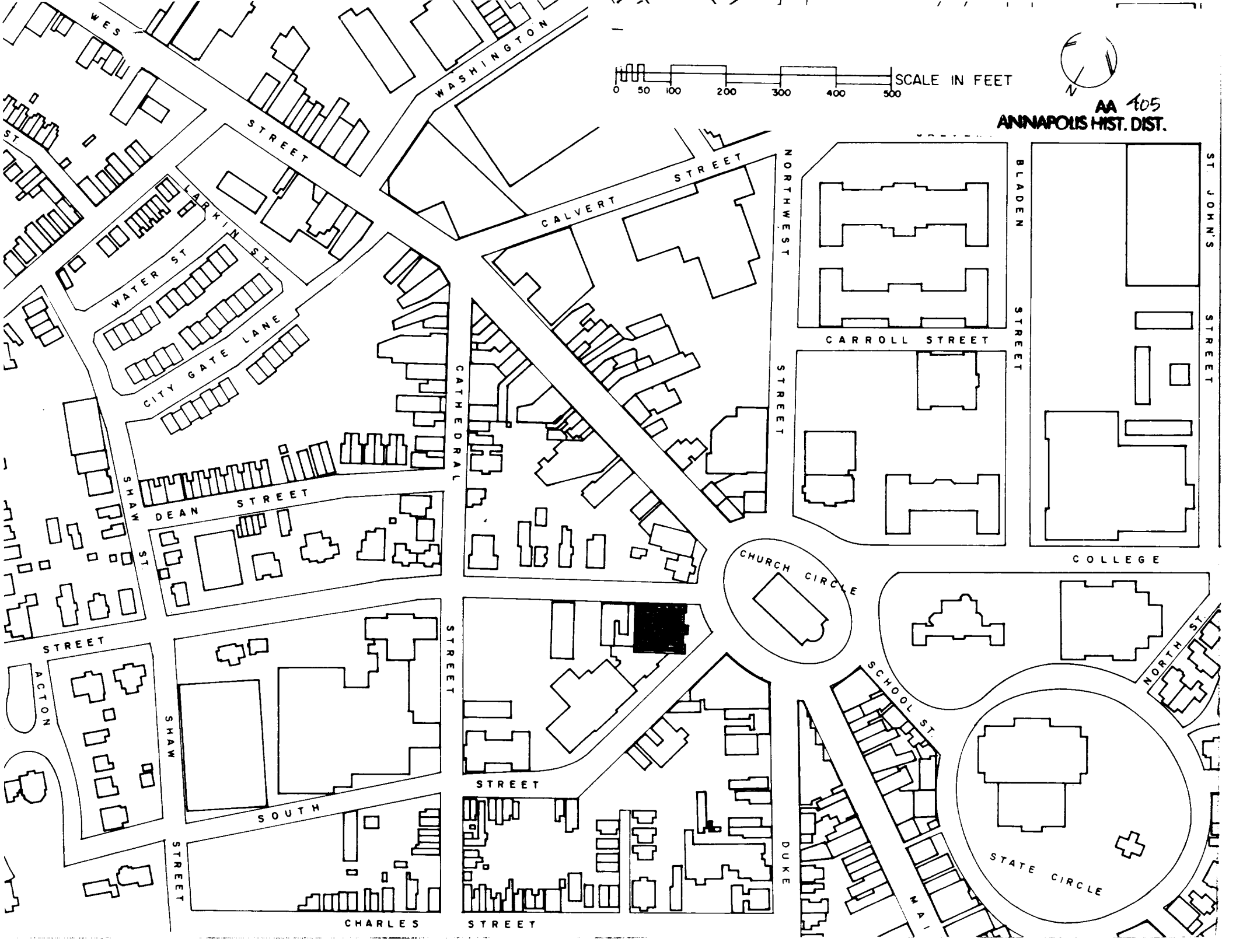
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE	Endangered	Interior	Exterior	good
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*See Md. Hall of Records - Photo - "Hayman Collection" - View shows Ct. House - without and pavilion -*



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.  Court House, Hall of Records		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER William D. Morgan Columbia University New York City  DATE OF RECORD June 28, 1967	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPH MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE





PHOTOGRAPH BY  
WILLIAM D. MORGAN

A. F. Co. Court House  
11/28/21, 11:00 AM



AA 405

Church Circle  
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County  
Russell Wright July, 1982  
Maryland Historical Trust,  
Annapolis, Maryland  
DW Elevation/camera facing SE